

AIA Disaster Assistance Committee Report - March 2017

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Regional representative

National Update

On February 22 2017 the Disaster Assistance Committee had its first conference call of the year to welcome new members to the committee and explain what the Programs goals and objectives.

Third Addition of the Disaster Assistance Handbook

It was announced that the anticipate release of the **Third Addition** would be on March 24. The Handbook will continue to address disaster response and preparedness, with an expanded section on mitigation, resilience, and long-term recovery.

Its purpose is: • To allow AIA members to better understand their role and how to prepare for and respond to disasters; • To help built environment professionals learn how to work with architects and the community on disaster response and preparedness efforts; • To help Municipal governments become aware of the unique ways architects assist the public and their clients in mitigating, responding to and recovering from disasters.

It will also include a **User Guide** that will familiarize the user with the content of the Handbook in a quick and accessible way, so that they know when to turn to it and how to use it before, during, and in the aftermath of a disaster.

Content: Two user guides • First, an actionable guide for architects engaged in or looking to engage in disaster assistance • Second, a tool for architects to use in conversation with potential collaborators, including building officials, emergency mangers, and public officials.

The user guides will take the form of folders which will also include information such as sample Good Sam legislation and model language for portability of licensure.

The Committee is looking for case studies of AIA Disaster Assistance efforts to include in this section of the Handbook. If you have any to share please contact Lindsay Bugger AIA at LindsayBrugger@aia.org.

National Conference in April

The Committee will be offering a learning session “What Architects need to know about Disasters & Risk Reduction “on the 28th.